

August 28th, 2016

Dear Musicians,

God's Blessings to you today! As we look to a new year of music in our church, I can't help but feel a sense of gratitude for the musicians with whom I work and worship with every week. What a privilege we have to serve God in His house with the talents He has given us. It is my prayer that we regularly reflect on this joy as musicians and continue to offer God the best of what our talents allow.

A big thank you to Allen Mundt who dedicated several hours this summer in helping organize the choir storage room. This should significantly help me in being able to better organize our church's music.

As we begin this year, I would like to discuss some points that I believe would allow us to improve the way we share our gifts in worship. Please ponder the three points below as we aim to serve our Lord in the best way that we are able to serve:

1. Spiritual Focus: I will be writing some brief thoughts on a monthly basis that I will share with you by email. I hope to include some focus questions and thoughts in regards to our readings and anthems. I would also like to use these briefly in our devotions so that we may more clearly see the work we do in our worship service.
2. Rehearsal Efficiency: Something that is both very important and very difficult. This truly takes a team effort. This requires a great deal of advanced planning and agenda based rehearsing. It also requires reasonable attendance and persistent work from our ensemble members.
3. How can we remove barriers, be flexible, still have meaningful rehearsals, and be fully prepared to give our best in worship? Perhaps the best answer is by the grace of God. Please pray for our music ministry so that we are able to achieve this task. Please speak to me if there is a barrier in your way that prevents you from participating. It is my prayer that somehow we can find a way to overcome and meet the above challenges.

Please pray for our musicians and their ability to bring a pleasing musical offering to the Lord. Please prayerfully consider your role in making our music ministry a reality for our congregation. **Please pray that our church musicians are inwardly digesting the words they sing and proclaim their talents to the best of their abilities.**

May God richly bless our efforts to bring God's Word into our church!

In Christ,

Paul Scheiderer